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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Executive Secretary  
The National Security Council

SUBJECT: Intelligence Support for US Public Health Service

1. By Presidential directive of 14 July 1954, certain responsibilities for biological, chemical and radiological warfare defense programs were transferred from Federal Civil Defense Administration (FCDA) to the US Public Health Service (USPHS).

2. USPHS has requested CIA for intelligence support to discharge these responsibilities. Security approved channels now exist for transmitting intelligence to USPHS, and arrangements have been made for furnishing USPHS with relevant finished departmental intelligence. There remains the problem of making available to USPHS national intelligence relating to the USPHS warfare defense mission.

3. NSC 541, paragraph 5a, provides that "the Director of Central Intelligence shall disseminate national intelligence to the President, to members of the National Security Council, to the intelligence chiefs of the JAC Agencies, and to such governmental departments and agencies as the National Security Council from time to time may designate."

4. The action of the President transferring to USPHS certain civil defense responsibilities which were in part the basis for the release of appropriate national intelligence to FCDA suggests that USPHS should also be authorized to receive such intelligence as appropriate.

5. I recommend, therefore, that the National Security Council authorize the dissemination to USPHS of such national intelligence as is essential to the performance of its civil defense mission under the Presidential directive of 14 July 1954.

O/NE [ ] - Rewritten: WPB:bpc  
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Director

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